

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (canceled)

2. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the medical device is a stent.

3. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the drug is a light-sensitive drug or a UV-radiation sensitive drug.

4. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 3, wherein the light-sensitive drug comprises actinomycin D, paclitaxel, or vincristine.

5. (currently amended) A coating for a medical device, comprising:

(a) a first layer including a drug and a polymer;

(b) a second layer including a polymer disposed over the first layer; and

(c) a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the second layer, wherein the mass ratio between the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer in the second layer is between about 3:1 and about 1:3, ~~wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound has no or substantially no therapeutic effect, and wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound~~ comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.

Claim 6 (canceled)

7. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound is additionally included in the first layer.

8. (currently amended) A coating for a medical device, the coating having increased resistance to light and/or UV-radiation, the coating comprising:

(a) a drug layer including a drug and a polymer;

(b) a topcoat layer disposed over the drug layer, wherein the topcoat layer is free from any drugs; and

(c) a film-forming layer disposed over the topcoat layer, wherein a light- and/or UV-protective compound is included in the film-forming layer, ~~wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound has no or substantially no therapeutic effect, and wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.~~

9. (currently amended) A coating for a medical device, the coating having increased resistance to light and/or UV-radiation, the coating comprising:

(a) a drug layer including a drug and a polymer; and

(b) a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the drug layer, wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20, ~~wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound has no or substantially no therapeutic effect, and wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.~~

10. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 9, additionally comprising:
a polymeric primer layer deposited between a surface of the medical device and the drug layer.

Claims 11, 12 and 13 (canceled)

14. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 9, wherein the medical device is a stent.

15. (currently amended) A method for fabricating a medical article, comprising forming a coating onto a medical device, wherein the coating comprises a first layer including a drug and a polymer, a second layer including a polymer disposed over the first layer, and a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the second layer, ~~wherein the mass ratio between the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer in the second layer is between about 3:1 and about 1:3, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound has no or substantially no~~

therapeutic effect, and wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.

16. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the drug is a light-sensitive drug or a UV-radiation sensitive drug.

17. (previously presented) The method of Claim 16, wherein the light-sensitive drug comprises actinomycin D, paclitaxel, or vincristine.

Claim 18 (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A method for fabricating a medical article, comprising forming a coating on a medical device, wherein the coating comprises a drug layer including a drug and a polymer, a topcoat layer disposed over the drug layer, the topcoat layer being free from any drugs, and a film-forming layer disposed over the topcoat layer, wherein a light- and/or UV-protective compound is included in the film-forming layer, ~~wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound has no or substantially no therapeutic effect, and wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.~~

Claim 20 (canceled)

21. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound is additionally included in the first layer.

Claim 22 (canceled)

23. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the coating additionally comprises a polymeric primer layer deposited between a surface of the medical device and the first layer.

Claim 24 (canceled)

25. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the second layer is free from any drugs.

26. (currently amended) A coating for a medical device, comprising one or more layers of coating material, wherein at least one of the layers of the coating material includes a polymer, a drug and a compound capable of absorbing radiation having a wavelength in the UV and/or visible light spectrum, and wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20, ~~wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound has no or substantially no therapeutic effect,~~ and wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.

27. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the second layer is free from any drugs.

28. (currently amended) A method for fabricating a medical article, comprising applying a coating formulation to the medical article, the coating formulation including:

(a) a polymer;

(b) a drug; and

(c) a light- and/or UV-protective compound, wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20, ~~wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound has no or substantially no therapeutic effect,~~ and wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.

29. (previously presented) The method of Claim 28, wherein the medical article is a stent.

Claims 30 and 31(canceled)

32. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the medical device is a stent.

33. (currently amended) A coating for a medical article, comprising:

(a) a polymer;

(b) a drug; and

(c) a light- and/or UV-protective compound, wherein the mass ratio between the drug, the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer is between about 1:1:2 and about 1:3:20, ~~wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound has no or substantially no therapeutic effect,~~ and wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.

34. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 33, wherein the medical device is a stent.

Claims 35 and 36 (canceled)

37. (previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein the medical device is a stent.

Claim 38 (canceled)

39. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the thickness of the second layer is between about 100 nanometers and about 4 micrometers.

40. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 8, wherein the medical device is a stent.

41. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 8, wherein the thickness of the film-forming layer is between about 100 nanometers and about 4 micrometers.

42. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the thickness of the second layer is between about 100 nanometers and about 4 micrometers.

43. (previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein the thickness of the film-forming layer is between about 100 nanometers and about 4 micrometers.

44. (previously presented) The coating of Claim 5, wherein the second layer is configured to reduce a rate of release of the drug from the first layer after the medical device is inserted into a patient.

45. (previously presented) The method of Claim 15, wherein the second layer is configured to reduce a rate of release of the drug from the first layer after the medical device is inserted into a patient.

46. (currently amended) A method of coating a medical device, comprising applying a first coating composition including a drug and a polymer to the medical device, and applying a second coating composition over the first coating composition, the second coating composition including a polymer and a light- and/or UV-protective compound, wherein the mass ratio between the light- and/or UV-protective compound and the polymer in the second composition is between about 3:1 and about 1:3, ~~wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound has no or substantially no therapeutic effect, and wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound~~ comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.

47. (previously presented) The method of Claim 46, wherein the medical device is a stent.

Claim 48 (canceled)

49. (new) A coating for a medical device, comprising:

- (a) a first layer including a drug and a polymer;
- (b) a second layer including a polymer disposed over the first layer; and
- (c) a light- and/or UV-protective compound included in the second layer, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.

50. (new) The coating of Claim 49, wherein the device is a stent.

51. (new) A coating for a medical device, comprising:

- (a) a polymer and a drug, wherein the polymer is for the local release of the drug; and
- (b) a light- and/or UV-protective compound, wherein the light- and/or UV-protective compound comprises carbon black or titanium-nitride-oxide.

52. (new) The coating of claim 51, wherein the device is a stent.